

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAN JO 03885 132012Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----123607 132014Z /64/15

O 130655Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2218
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SAN JOSE 3885

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (EO TO READ GDS)

E.O. 11652 GDS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MOPS, CS, NU

REF: STATE 231674

SUBJECT: GON AIRCRAFT ATTAEC/SANDINISTA ATTACK

1. CARAZO CALLED ME LATE SEPTEMBER 12 ON HIS RETURN FROM LIBERIA TO ADVISE ME HE HAD GONE TO SCENE OF GON AIR ATTACK PERSONALLY AND CONFIRMED FROM PHYSICAL EVIDENCE AS WELL AS WITNESSES THAT IT OCCURED THREE KILOMETERS INSIDE COSTA RICAN BORDER. HE REPORTED THAT SEVEN GON AIRPLANES AND ONE HELICOPTER WERE INVOLVED AND THAT THERE REMAINS NO DOUBT OF THE INTENTIONAL NATURE OF THE ATTACK. FORTUNATELY THE TWO COSTA RICAN CASUALTIES SUFFERED ONLY MINOR WOUNDS.

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2. WHILE TALKING WITH CARAZO AND IN RELATION TO THE PENAS BLANCAS ADVICE CONTAINED REFTTEL, CARAZO GOT A MESSAGE FROM HIS MINISTER OF INTERIOR, STILL IN LIBERIA, GIVING HIM A REPORT THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF FSLN WERE MOVING SOUTH FROM RIVAS TOWARDS THE COSTA RICAN BORDER IN SUCH FORCE THAT THEY HAD TO BE NICARAGUAN-BASED AND COULD NOT BE THE RETURNING GROUP OF THOSE RELATIVELY FEW FSLN THAT GON

ALLEGES (AND GOCR APPEARS TO ACCEPT), MOVED OVER THE BORDER INTO NICARAGUA FROM LA LIBERTAD FARM.

3. FOR THE MOMENT, THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE, BARRING BETTER INFORMATION NOT LIKELY TO BE AVAILABLE BEFORE MORNING, THE SOURCE OF CONCERN REPORTED REFTEL. PRESIDENT DID INDICATE ALSO THAT LIMITED GUARD REINFORCEMENTS HAD BEEN MOVED INTO GENERAL AREA DURING COURSE OF DAY BUT WERE BEING KEPT AT SOME DISTANCE FROM ACTUAL BORDER TO AVOID ANY FURTHER INVOLVEMENT. WEISSMAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT, PARAMILITARY FORCES, BOMBING, COMBAT OPERATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, AIR COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: 31005851-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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